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Orpheum Change.

The Orpheum program tonight opens with a comedy farce entitled "Dutch Justice" by the full company. J. W. Winton has a lot of new surprises in stock. Miss Edith Fletcher will appear in coon songs. Misses Marion and Clara Llewellyn will be heard in new operatic selections. Musical Fletcher and his den of wild instruments has an entirely new act. Miss Dreyfuss and Jackson Hearde are down for an original sketch entitled "Off to the War," and Flying Busch will add some new features to his daring work on the bars.

ONE HUNDRED BRITONS TAKEN TO PRETORIA

Official Statement About the Late Disaster.

RUMORS OF STILL ANOTHER ARMORED TRAIN DEFEAT

Gallant Deeds by British Soldiers — The Situation at Ladysmith—The Advance on Estcourt.

LONDON, Nov. 17.—The serious and unexpected disaster to the Estcourt train on the eve of the forward movement for the relief of Ladysmith has apparently convinced the British that the advance will be contested step by step.

Boers are seemingly swarming south of Colenso, while a much larger force has arrived from elsewhere, and will probably turn out to be General Schalkburg's corps.

BOER TACTICS.

The Boers are evidently straining every nerve and bringing up every man to reduce Ladysmith before the British relief force is ready.

Their operations southward show considerable boldness and correctness of strategy. If their aim is to isolate Estcourt by cutting off communication with the Mooi river, where there is an important railroad bridge, everything points to the fact that the officer commanding the relieving column will have a more difficult task than is generally assumed. In front he will have a broad river to cross in the presence of the Boers; on his right, and probably in his rear, will be hostile bodies

grams, even though emanating from missionaries, are not trustworthy. There seems no doubt, however, that there have been some sharp affairs.

Heavy rifle firing, followed by an explosion, was heard in the direction of Ladysmith before daylight on Thursday, indicating a night surprise, and possibly the explosion of a magazine.

TROOPS AT CAPETOWN.

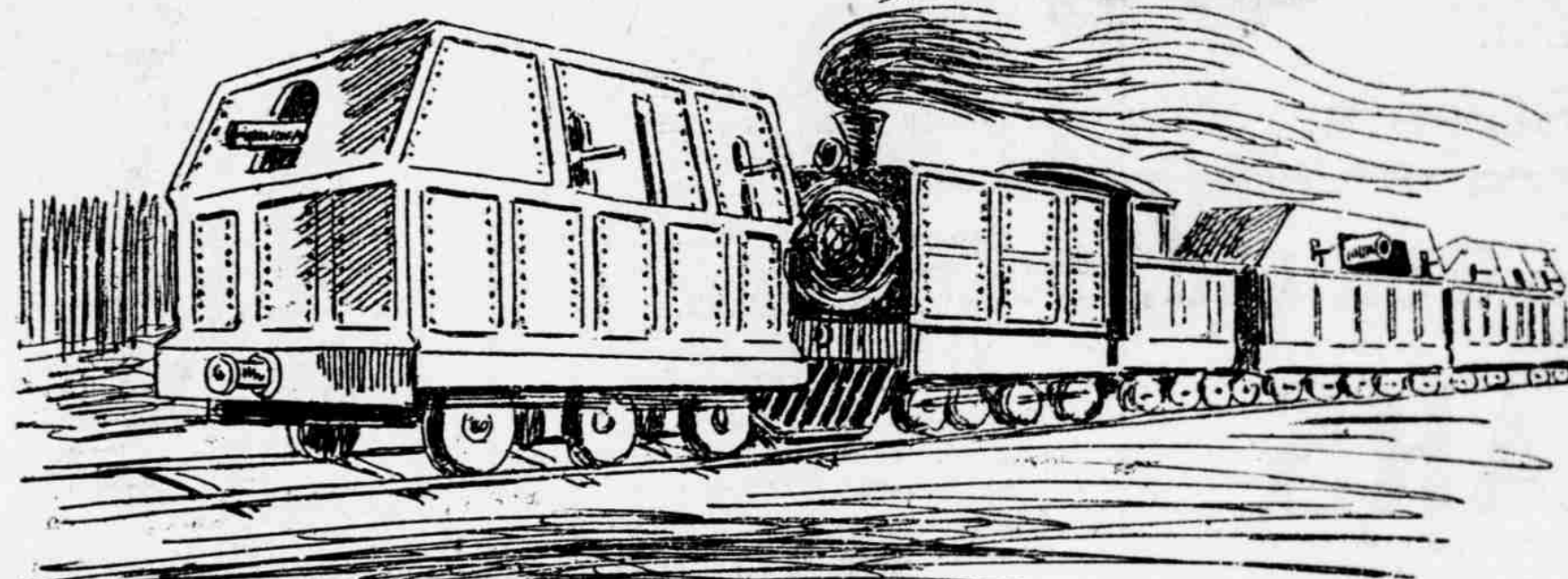
The transports already officially announced today as having arrived at Capetown carried the following troops: The Malta Mounted Infantry reserves and the Coldstream Guards; total, 75 officers and 1,580 men; the City of Vienna, cavalry brigade staff, the Twelfth Lancers and a field hospital; total, 15 officers and 310 men; the City of Cambridge, the Second Scottish Rifles and a field hospital; total, 45 officers and 965 men.

GOLD OUTPUT.

A dispatch from Pretoria gives the Minister of Mines' announcement of the gold output for October at a total of 17,846 ounces, against 426,556 in September and 482,108 in August. The dispatch adds somewhat ironically that some of the companies have not worked the full month.

MARCHING THROUGH ZULULAND.

The Standard and Digger's News



A BRITISH ARMORED TRAIN.

who are continually demonstrating their superior cunning.

THE ESTCOURT DISASTER.

The official account of the disaster to the Estcourt armored train showing that a hundred missing men are probably already on their way to Pretoria to swell the large number already there, besides a score of wounded, demonstrates that the small British force fought with the utmost bravery.

CHURCHILL'S PLUCK.

Winston Churchill's brilliant behavior is compared with the gallant action in the Tirah campaign, which won for Lord Finscastle, who was also acting as a newspaper correspondent, the Victoria Cross.

The railroad men of Estcourt have already forwarded a dispatch to the general manager of the railroad expressing admiration for the coolness and pluck of young Churchill, to whose efforts they attribute the saving of the engine and tender and wounded, and asking the manager to convey their admiration for the brave man.

RUMORS OF ANOTHER DISASTER.

There are rumors of another disaster to an Estcourt armored train, and it is reported that twenty-five volunteers, who formed the escort, are missing, but there is no confirmation of these reports.

PROBABLY HEAVY FIGHTING.

When definite news from Ladysmith is available, it will doubtless be found that the garrison has been having a lively time. Nevertheless, not too much credence should be paid to stories of trains full of Boer wounded being taken towards Pretoria as the result of a crushing defeat sustained at the hands of the British. Experience proves that these Kaffir

A shell landed among the protecting boulders, spattering them with earth, but Captain Wyld sustained no further injury. But for Tod he would have been killed.

WORKED AMID A SHOWER OF BULLETS.

Several men escaped marvelously. When Winston Churchill requested Captain Wyld to call for volunteers to remove the upset truck, bullets were dropping on the train "like rain." The men throughout stuck to their work, responding to the noble example set by Churchill and Lieutenant Franklin, until the line was cleared. Churchill actually left with the engine, but he got out at the next station, Frere, took a rifle from a soldier and, saying he could not leave the wounded, walked away in the direction of the Boers.

THREE KILLED, NINE WOUNDED.

ESTCOURT, Thursday, Nov. 16 (Afternoon).—The Red Cross train has again returned without bringing in the dead and wounded.

The Boers declined to give any information as to the names of either the killed or injured, referring the inquirers to the Pretoria press for all information.

All that they disclosed was the fact that three of the British were killed and nine wounded.

NARROW ESCAPES.

Sergeant Hassett, of the Dublins, behaved with the greatest gallantry. He took charge of the firing party, and stood up unflinchingly during the Boers' hot fire. His example electrified the Fusiliers, who kept at the Boers.

Captain Haldane fell early in the engagement, shot through the shoulder, but is doing well.

Lieutenant Franklin's conduct is highly praised. He exhibited great coolness during the critical period. He is reported missing.

The shower of Mauser lead is described as being so heavy that a private, after being struck down, dug a hole for his head.

Copeland, of the Durban, was crushed to death by a derailed truck. A plate layer was shot through the head, but is doing well.

Lieutenant Alexander had an exciting experience. A Fusilier, who had been wounded in the arm by a shell, which shattered the limb, swung around and hit Alexander in the neck, almost smothering him with blood. A shell burst in front of the Lieutenant on the level. He staggered, blinded for a moment, and the next instant saw his comrade lying dead at his feet, while he himself was unharmed.

tacked 380 burghers of the Transvaal. A big gun was fired on the troops, who retired at 3 o'clock to Kloof near Ladysmith.

The British loss is unknown. The Boers had one man killed and three wounded, and thirteen horses killed.

When the British fell back on Ladysmith several shells exploded amongst them, but the effects could not be seen.

"A LURID INFERNO."

At midnight all the Afrikaner cannons on the hills surrounding the town opened fire simultaneously on Ladysmith, turning the quiet darkness of the night into a lurid inferno of whistling, shrieking shells, speeding from all points of the compass to the doomed city.

Several buildings on fire were seen from the Bulwano hill.

During the day troops left the city deserted, and sought shelter on the edge of the hill to escape our death-dealing shells.

ADVANCING ON ESTCOURT.

LORENZO MARQUEZ, Thursday, Nov. 16.—The Standard and Digger's News, Johannesburg, on Tuesday published official advices confirming the report that 3,000 Boers were advancing on Estcourt.

The searching of the mines continues, but no startling discoveries have been made beyond finding a case of interesting documents in one of the shafts relating to the reform conspiracy at the time of the Jameson raid.

READY FOR THE ENEMY.

ESTCOURT, Nov. 17, Afternoon.—The Elmo Boer force has taken up a position near Innersdale, a few miles north of here. They have eight 7-pounders and two French guns. Their strength is 2,000 men. They have looted Henderson's store.

All is quiet here and ready for the enemy if it should attack. There is no anxiety.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF KIMBERLEY.

KIMBERLEY, Thursday Evening, via CAPETOWN, Nov. 12.—The Boers were busy yesterday throwing up fresh earthworks.

There has been no further bombardment.

De Beers' mines are practically closed. Thousands of employees are now domiciled in the center of the town and are being provisioned by the Mayor's relief fund.

Military authorities have ordered all civilians to give up ammunition, with a view of preventing irresponsible firing at the Boers in contravention of the laws of civilized warfare.

Natives report that Boers cheered each shell as it was fired yesterday, believing it meant the destruction of Kimberley.

The Boers are now wearing khaki uniforms and blue pugars, making it difficult to distinguish them from the British.

Locusts are appearing.

ARMORED TRAIN FOR ESTCOURT.

LONDON, Nov. 17.—A special dispatch from Durban says another complete armored train has been sent to Estcourt to replace the disabled one.

ANXIOUS TO ENLIST.

QUEBEC, Nov. 17.—The enthusiasm has become so marked in military circles since the Canadian contingent left for South Africa, that a proposal has been made to increase the Eighth Royal Rifles to eight companies in order to accept the many applications for enlistment.

METEORIC FIREWORKS.

But a Small Number of Leonids Observed by Flammarion.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—According to the Herald today, Flammarion, the eminent astronomer, is quoted in the European edition as saying:

"As I have calculated the shower of shooting stars was not very abundant. The meteors had become dispersed along the whole length of their trajectory. Instead of the hundreds of thousands observed in 1790 and 1833, it has not been possible to register even a thousand. Monsieur Janssen, director of the Meudon observatory, who conceived the ingenious idea of making observations from balloons, telegraphed me that from a height of a thousand meters, one hundred Leonids, twenty of which were of the first magnitude, were observed from the balloon."

The Herald also says that Percival Spencer, the English aeronaut, went up with two observers to witness the Leonid shower. They saw only five meteors, but were near enough to catch some of the fiery vapor by a special apparatus they had aboard.

HIT BY AN AEROLITE.

CRESCENT, Ill., Nov. 17.—By the falling of an aerolite, seven miles south of Crescent City, the residence of John Meyers was partially wrecked, and people in the neighborhood were thrown into a panic. The meteor came from a point in the sky a little east of south, and struck the north end of the house, tearing away part of the upper story. The aerolite buried itself in the ground about three feet from the foundation of the house.

(Continued on Page 2.)